



# CITY COUNCIL

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## Administrative Oversight Committee

**Monday, April 02, 2007  
Meeting Report**

**Attendance:** S. Marmarou, D. Sterner, M. Baez

**Others Attending:** C. Kanezo

### **I. Interviews**

#### **George Cook (Reappointment- Parking Authority)**

Mr. Cook stated he thoroughly enjoyed serving as Chair of the Reading Parking Authority. Mr. Cook described the many recent projects undertaken by the Parking Authority and their importance to Reading's overall success.

Mr. Marmarou discussed the importance of ample, affordable parking in downtown Reading. Mr. Sterner asked Mr. Cook how the Parking Authority planned on managing existing debt levels. Mr. Cook replied that the Parking Authority, unlike most organizations in the City, is profitable and will remain profitable. Mr. Cook pointed to the regular repayment of monies owed to the City as an example of the Authority's stability.

Mr. Sterner thanked Mr. Cook for taking the time volunteer. Mr. Cook indicated he was happy to volunteer, so long as his service was appreciated.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the reappointment of Mr. George Cook to the Environmental Advisory Board.** Mr. Kanezo questioned why Mr. Cook was brought forward for an interview; he then explained the Mayor has sole power to appoint and dismiss Parking Authority members.

#### **Leonard Butzer ( Reappointment BOCA Board of Appeals )**

Mr. Butzer described his many years of service on the BOCA Board of Appeals; during his time the Board has met relatively infrequently. Mr. Sterner asked why the Board met infrequently. Mr. Butzer stated that the board meetings are driven by volume of appeals, and the number of appeals has been low.

Mr. Marmarou thanked Mr. Butzer for his service, then recommended the committee endorse the reappointment without further question.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the reappointment of Mr. Leonard Butzer to the BOCA Board of Appeals.**

**Chris Fegley (Appointment- Minority Business Procurement Board)**

Mr. Marmarou asked Mr. Fegley why he was interested in serving on the Minority Business Procurement Board. Mr. Fegley stated Reading is an exceedingly diverse City, with a very uniform business community. Mr. Fegley felt minority contractors operate at a disadvantage and need assistance.

Mr. Sterner asked Mr. Fegley what skills he would bring to the board. Mr. Fegley described his multiple years of community outreach and service in minority communities. Mr. Fegley added, through his work with Neighborhood Housing Services, he has a great deal of contacts in certain communities; contacts that might be willing to join the board.

Mr. Marmarou encouraged Mr. Fegley to recruit as many candidates as possible. Mr. Sterner and Ms. Baez thanked Mr. Fegley for showing interest in serving the community.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Chris Fegley to the Minority Business Procurement Board.**

**Eligo Colon (Reappointment- Housing Authority)**

The committee thanked Mr. Colon for his years of service to a very important Authority. Mr. Marmarou asked why Mr. Colon was interested in reapplying. Mr. Colon stated that his time spent on the Housing Authority has been time well spent and that he still retains a strong desire to serve the community.

Mr. Marmarou discussed how remarkable it is to have members of the community consistently volunteer to serve the City of Reading. Mr. Sterner noted how important it is to keep professionals with great skills involved in the community. Ms. Baez noted her agreement.

Mr. Colon and the committee discussed recent projects undertaken by the Housing Authority and the impact those projects have had on the City of Reading.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the reappointment of Mr. Eligo Colon to the Reading Housing Authority.**

### **Reginald Nealy (Appointment-Blighted Property Review Committee)**

Mr. Sterner asked what skills Mr. Nealy would bring to the Blighted Property Review Committee. Mr. Nealy confessed that he had originally applied for a position on the Police Diversity Board; however, when that position was filled he was approached about serving on the committee. Mr. Nealy stated that while he didn't have formal knowledge of City economic development policy, he is a quick study and very interested in learning all there is to know.

Ms. Baez commented positively on Mr. Nealy's extensive resume. Mr. Nealy discussed his work in criminology and the professorship he holds at West Chester University. Mr. Sterner asked Mr. Nealy what he would consider to be Reading's strengths. Mr. Nealy felt Reading offers tremendous affordability in housing, a wealth of diversity and great history. Mr. Nealy observed Reading possesses many of the desirable qualities found in small town America: friendly neighbors and an involved and caring citizenry.

Mr. Marmarou asked why Mr. Nealy moved to Reading. Mr. Nealy explained that he has historic ties to Reading and wished to return.

Mr. Marmarou thought Mr. Nealy would make an excellent addition to the Blighted Property Review Committee.

Mr. Kanezo provided Mr. Nealy a copy of the Blighted Property Review Committee Ordinance and explained that as soon as a majority of members were appointed to the committee a meeting would be organized. Mr. Nealy asked if resources would be provided to enable the fulfillment of the committee's mission. Mr. Kanezo stated internal discussions concerning the level of support have been held; members of the Administration will be invited to the initial committee meeting to provide more direct information.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Reginald Nealy to the Blighted Property Review Committee.**

### **Jeff White (Reappointment Park and Rec Advisory Council)**

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the reappointment of Mr. Jeff White to the Park and Recreation Advisory Council.**